

Air Quality Operating Permit and Registration Requirements for Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants

BACKGROUND

Why Am I Regulated?

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has adopted performance standards for many types of industrial facilities called New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) which can be found in 40 CFR Part 60. Listed types of industrial facilities, which are built, modified or reconstructed after the dates listed in the NSPS, must comply unless exempted by the regulation. Each new source performance standard contains requirements applicable to the type of industry being regulated. There are also general requirements applicable to all industries subject to NSPS, such as monitoring and record keeping requirements. Each NSPS defines what facilities are subject to it and contains emission limits for specified pollutants, compliance requirements, specific monitoring requirements, and applicable test methods and procedures.

If you own and operate a nonmetallic mineral processing plant, you are subject to 40 CFR Part 60, Subpart OOO, Standards of Performance for Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants, if the following criteria are met:

- You own and/or operate a portable sand and gravel plant and crushed stone plant with a capacity greater than 150 tons per hour; and/or
- You own and/or operate a fixed sand and gravel and crushed stone plant with a capacity greater than 25 tons per hour; and/or
- You own and/or operate a common clay plant and pumice plant with a capacity greater than 10 tons per hour; and
- Your facility commenced construction or was modified **after** August 31, 1983.

AIR QUALITY OPERATING PERMITS

Current Idaho Law requires the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to issue Tier I Operating Permits to all sources regulated under Title V of the Clean Air Act. This includes sources regulated by NSPS. As a result, a number of smaller sources will be impacted that may not have previously been subject to permitting requirements prior to this time.

How Does This Affect Me?

All owners or operators of nonmetallic mineral processing plants that are subject to NSPS are also subject to the Clean Air Act Title V operating permit requirements.

Idaho's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will be issuing operating permits to these sources. However, DEQ is not issuing these operating permits until June 1, 2006 if the source registers by May 1, 2001. Under this deferral, these sources must continue to comply with all of the operational requirements, emission limitations, and the reporting and record keeping requirements that are part of the federal and state regulations.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

DEQ believes that air quality in the State can be effectively managed by registering facilities and obtaining air emissions information without imposing operating permit and fee requirements on these sources at this time.

Therefore, on June 23, 2000 the DEQ Board adopted a rule that allows facilities to do one of the following:

1. You can register now with DEQ. If you choose to register now, you will not need to submit your application for your air quality operating permit until June 1, 2005; or
2. You choose **not** to register with DEQ. If you choose **not** to register with DEQ, you must submit your air quality operating permit application immediately, as it was required to be submitted to DEQ on June 1, 2000.

If you choose to register with DEQ, you must submit your registration form to DEQ no later than May 1, 2001.